

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1) (Currently Amended) A sealed package (1) for pourable food products, having at least one removable portion (4), and a closable opening device (2) in turn comprising a frame (5) defining a pour opening (6) and fixed to said package (1) about said removable portion (4), a cap (7) fitted to said frame (5) to close said pour opening (6) and movable to free the pour opening (6), and pull-off opening means (8) housed in said frame (5) and comprising a rigid plate (9) integral with said removable portion (4) and extractable from the frame (5), by pulling action, together with at least part of said removable portion (4); characterized by also comprising a pull-tab (16) of sheet material interposed between said removable portion (4) and said plate (9) and attached to both.

2) (Currently Amended) A package as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that wherein said pull-tab (16) comprises a main portion (19) attached to said removable portion (4); and an end portion (20) folded over said main portion (19) and attached to said plate (9).

3) (Currently Amended) A package as claimed in Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that wherein said plate (9) is connected integrally to said frame (5) by breakable connecting means (23) defining a parting direction in which said plate

(9) is parted from the frame (5), and which is parallel to an opening direction(B) of said pull-tab (16).

4) (Currently Amended) A package as claimed in ~~any one of the foregoing Claims, claim 3 characterized in that wherein~~ said plate (9) comprises a base portion (21) attached to said pull-tab (16); and a grip portion (22) projecting from said base portion (21) and accessible through said frame (5) when said cap (7) is removed from said pour opening (6).

5) (Currently Amended) A package as claimed in Claim 4, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ said breakable connecting means comprise two parallel breakable strips of material (23) connecting opposite sides of said base portion (21) of said plate (9) to mutually facing portions (24) of said frame (5).

6) (Currently Amended) A package as claimed in Claim 4 or 5, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ said grip portion (22) is substantially ring-shaped, projects from one end of said base portion (21), and is bent over the base portion (21).

7) (Currently Amended) A package as claimed in ~~any one of the foregoing Claims, claim 6, characterized in that wherein~~ said removable portion (4) comprises a patch (17) of thermoplastic material applied to the inside of said package (1) to close a through hole (18) in the package.

8) (New) A package as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said plate is connected integrally to said frame by breakable connecting means defining a parting direction in which said plate is parted from the frame, and which is parallel to an opening direction of said pull-tab.

9) (New) A package as claimed in claim 1, wherein said plate comprises a base portion attached to said pull-tab; and a grip portion projecting from said base portion and accessible through said frame when said cap is removed from said pour opening.

10) (New) A package as claimed in Claim 9, wherein said breakable connecting means comprise two parallel breakable strips of material connecting opposite sides of said base portion of said plate to mutually facing portions of said frame.

11) (New) A package as claimed in Claim 10, wherein said grip portion is substantially ring-shaped, projects from one end of said base portion, and is bent over the base portion.

12) (New) A package as claimed in Claim 9, wherein said grip portion is substantially ring-shaped, projects from one end of said base portion, and is bent over the base portion.

13) (New) A package as claimed in claim 1, wherein said removable portion comprises a patch of thermoplastic material applied to the inside of said package to close a through hole in the package.